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POETRY.

A DIRGE OF LOVE.

BY W. R. L.

As I she is dead; the splendor of her eyes
Sleeps 'neath the lids forever; on my sight
Never again shall flash their high delight,
Under and rich with love's sweet ecstasies.

Later again, deep down from vulgar ken,
Shall the pure gushing of her soul rejoice,
And we stand silent, as to hear the voice
Of waters falling to a soundless gloom.

And scarce again from other lips shall come
Such beautiful truths, such fresh imaginings,
As, like the warm south-wind, upon their wings
Set off our fancy to their own bright home.

As I am calm; though hard it be to smooth
Waters upboken from the deepest deep;
Though it be hard to watch, yet never weep,
Is darkening cynosure of passionate youth;

As I am calm. The heart I had to bring
Was mired with imperfection and decay,
Now the free spirit, risen from the clay,
Looks at the fountain whence all love must spring.

Passed from earth to celestial love!
O rest from me and from my clinging grasp,
And circled straightway by the close, warm clasp
Of seraph bosoms in the land above!

Will not weep these more. But if I long
Too sorrowfully for thy presence here,
Not vainly on thy turf shall fall the tear,
As thy dead name shall blossom into song.

I'M THINKING OF THE PAST.

I'm thinking of the past, Kate,
I'm thinking of the time
When we both looked to the future
As to some far sunny clime;
But the present is not brighter,
Though our lives are waning fast,
For our bosoms were lighter,
—Yes, I'm thinking of the past.

I'm thinking of the past, Kate,
I'm thinking of the time
When we thought to have a home, Kate,
With its garden and its flowers;
But our little ones must stem, love,
Like us, life's wintry blast,
We had hoped to live for them, love,
But I'm thinking of the past.

I'm thinking of the past, Kate,
I'm thinking of the time
When hand-in-hand we wandered
In many a moonlit walk,
And that sweet recollection
Of love, that still shall last,
Will cheer my deep dejection
As I'm thinking of the past.

AGRICULTURE.

WINTER FEED FOR BREEDING EWES.—Until two or three weeks preceding lambing, it is only necessary that breeding ewes like other store-sheep, be kept in good plump ordinary condition. Nor are any separate arrangements necessary for them, after that period, in a climate where they obtain sufficient succulent food to provide for a proper secretion of milk. In backward seasons in the north, where the grass does not start prior to the lambing time, careful flock-masters feed their ewes with chopped roots, or roots mixed with oat or pea-meal. This is, in my judgment, excellent economy. For the effect of the various excrements on the quantity and quality of the milk, see Liebig's Animal Chemistry.—*Wool Grower.*

TAKING CARE OF THE ORCHARD.—The orchard, to be productive of good, fair fruit, requires to be fed as much as does a field of grain. The soil of each requires that the substances abstracted by the crops shall be restored. The soil should be kept clean, and open to the meliorating influence of the sun, the dews, the rain, and the air. The bark of the trees should be kept in a beautiful condition by scraping, when necessary, and by alkaline washing.

MILCH COWS.—The winter treatment of cows should be well looked to. Moderately warm, and well-ventilated quarters, succulent food night and morning, clean beds, and occasional saltings, are necessary for their health and comfort. Those who wish their cows to give large quantities of milk in the winter season, should give them warm drink. The extra trouble will be more than repaid by the increased quality of milk.

SHEEP.—Unless sheep have access to succulent food or clean snow, water is indispensable. Constant access to a brook or spring is best; but in default of this, they should be watered, at least once a day, in some other way. Lambs from two to five weeks old are very subject to swelling of the joints. The best remedy is warmth; and the diseased limb should be well washed in soap and water, and the sore rubbed with some caustic ointment.

PUMPKIN SEEDS POISON TO FOWLS.—A writer in the *Culturist*, says he put a quantity of pumpkin seeds into his cauldron kettle with sweet apples and potatoes, and boiled and mashed up with meal, particularly for hogs; but when fed out, his fowls had a share, and the result was the death of thirty or forty ducks, turkeys, and chickens. They have died, also, from eating the seeds where left uncooked.

DRAINING OF WET LANDS, MARSHES, &c.—This process improves the health of neighborhoods, and adds to the value of the localities in which it is practiced, causing them to produce earlier and better crops.

SILNOTED TALE.

THE HUSBAND'S PRESENT.

BY A JOURNALIST.

It was a cold bitter night on the 24th of December. The snow lay deep upon the frozen earth, and the bright moon, riding half-way up the heavens, lent a crystalline lustre to the scene. In the high road, a short distance from a quiet, reposing village, stood the form of a human being. His garments were scant and tattered—by far insufficient to keep out the biting frost; his frame shook and trembled like the ice-bound boughs of the weeping willow that grew near him, and his face, as the moonbeams danced upon it, exhibited all the fearful footprints of the demon—Intemperance. Poor, wretched and debased he looked—and such, in truth, he was.

Before him, at the end of a neatly fenced and trellised inclosure, stood a small cottage. It was elegant in its simple neatness, and just such a one as the humble lover of true comfort and joy would seek for a home. The tears rolled down the bloated cheeks of the poor inebriate as he gazed upon the cottage, and at length, as he clasped his hands in agony, he murmured:—

"Oh, thou fond home of my happier days, thou lookest like a heaven of the past! Beneath thy roof I was married to the idol of my soul, and within thy peaceful walls, God gave me two blessed children. There, peace and plenty were mine. My wife—God bless her gentle soul—was happy then; and my children—may heaven protect them—laughed and played in gleesome pleasure. Gladness played upon us then, and every hour was a season of bliss. But I lost them as a fool loses his own salvation! Six years have passed since the demon that I took to my heart drove us from the sheltering roof. And those six years! Oh, what misery, what anguish, what sorrows, and what degradation have they not brought to me and my poor family! Home, health, wealth, peace, joy and friends, are gone—all, all gone! Oh, thou fatal cup—no, I will not blame thee. It was I—who did it. Year after year I tampered with thy deadly sting, when I knew that destruction lurked in thy smile. But, but," and the poor man raised his eyes to heaven as he spoke, "there is room on earth for another man—and I will be that man!"

Within the only apartment of a miserable and almost broken-down hovel, sat a woman and two children—a boy and a girl. The cold wind found its entrance through a hundred crevices, and as its biting gusts swept through the room, mother and children crouched nearer to the few embers that still moldered upon the hearth. The only furniture was four poor stools, a rickety table and a scantily covered bed; while in one corner, nearest to the fire place, was a heap of straw and tattered blankets, which served as a resting place for the brother and sister. Part of a yellow candle was burning upon the table and by its dim light one might have seen that wretched mother's countenance. It was pale and wan, and wet with the tears. The faces of her children were both buried in her lap, and they seemed to sleep peacefully under her faithful guardian-ship.

At length the sound of footsteps on the snow-crusted path struck upon the mother's ears, and, hastily arousing her children, she hurried them to their lowly bed; and hardly had they crouched away beneath the thin blankets, when the door was opened, and the man, whom we have already seen before the pretty cottage, entered the place. With a trembling and fearful look, the wife gazed up into her husband's face, and seemed ready to crouch back from his approach, when the mark of a tear-drop upon his cheek caught her eye. Could it be, thought she, that that pearly drop was in truth a tear? No—perhaps a snow-flake had fallen there and melted.

Once or twice, Thomas Wilkins seemed upon the point of speaking some word to his wife; but at length he turned slowly away and silently undressed himself, and after his weary limbs had touched the bed, very soon he was asleep.

Long and earnestly did Mrs. Wilkins gaze upon the features of her husband, after he had fallen asleep. There was something strange in his manner—something unaccountable; surely he had not been drinking, for his countenance had none of that vacant, wild demoniac look that usually rested there. His features were rather sad and thoughtful, than otherwise; and—O heavens, is it possible!—a smile played about his mouth, and a sound, as if of prayer, issued from his lips while yet he slept!

A faint hope, like the misty vapor of approaching morn, flitted before the heart broken wife. But she could not grasp it,—she had no foundation for it; and with a deep groan she let the phantom pass.—She went to her children, and drew the clothes more closely about them; she then

knelt by their side, and after imprinting on their cheeks a mother's kiss, uttered a fervent prayer in their behalf, and sought the repose of the pillow.

Long ere the morning dawned, Thomas Wilkins arose from his bed, dressed himself and left the house. His poor wife awoke just he was going out, and she would have called to him but she dared not. She would have told him that she had no fuel, no bread—not anything with which to warm and feed the children; but he was gone, and she sank back upon her pillow and wept.

The light of morning came at length, but Mrs. Wilkins had not risen from out her resting place. A sound of footsteps was heard from without accompanied by a noise, as though a light sled were being dragged thro' the snow. The door opened and the husband entered. He laid upon the table a heavy wheaten loaf, a small pail, and a paper bundle; then from his pocket he took another paper parcel, and again he turned toward the door. When next he entered he bore in his arms a load of wood; and three times did he go out and return with a load of the same description; then bent over the fire-place and soon a blazing fire snapped and sparkled on the hearth. As soon as this was accomplished, Thomas Wilkins bent over his children and kissed them;—then he went to the bedside of his wife, and while some powerful emotion stirred up in his soul and made his chest heave, he murmured:—

"Kiss me, Lizzie."

Tightly that wife wound her arms about the neck of her husband, and, as though the love of years had centered in that one kiss, she pressed it upon his lips.

"There—no more," he uttered, as he gently laid the arm of his wife from his neck; "these things I have bro't are for you and our children;" and as he spoke he left the house.

Mrs. Wilkins arose from her bed, and tremblingly she examined the articles upon the table. She found the loaf, and in the pail she found milk; one of the papers contained two smaller bundles—one of tea and one of sugar;—while in the remaining parcel she found a nice lump of butter.

"O," murmured the poor wife and mother, as he gazed upon the food thus spread out before, "whence came these? Can it be that Thomas has stolen them? No, he never did that! And then that look—that kiss—those kind, sweet words! O, my poor, poor heart, raise not a hope that may only fail and crush thee!"

"Mother," at this moment spoke her son, who had raised himself upon his elbow, "is our father gone?"

"Yes, Charles."

"O, tell me, mother, did he not come and kiss me and little Abby, this morning?"

"Yes, yes, he did!" cried the mother, as she flew to the side of her boy and wound her arms about him.

"And, mother," said the child, in low, trembling accents, while he turned a fearful look to his parent's face, "will not father be good to us once more?"

That mother could not speak—she could only press her children more fondly to her bosom, and weep a mother's tears upon them.

Was Lizzie Wilkins happy, as she sat her children down to that morning's meal? At least, a ray of sunshine was struggling to gain entrance to her bosom.

Toward the middle of the afternoon, Mr. Abel Walker, a retired sea-captain of some wealth, sat in his comfortable parlor, engaged in reading, when one of his servants informed him that some one at the door wished to see him.

"Tell him to come in," returned Walker.

"But it's that miserable Wilkins, sir."

"Never mind," said the captain, after a moment's hesitation, "show him in.—Poor fellow," he continued, after the servant had gone, "I wonder what he wants. In truth, I pity him."

With a trembling step and a downcast look, Thomas Wilkins entered Captain Walker's parlor.

"Ah, Wilkins," said the old captain, "what has brought you here?"

The poor man twice attempted to speak, but his heart failed him.

"Do you come for charity?"

"No, sir," quickly returned Wilkins, while his eyes gleamed with a proud light.

"Then sit down, and out with it," said Walker, in a blunt, but kind tone.

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all this, he had been taciturn and thoughtful, showing a dislike to all questions, and only speaking such words as were necessary. The poor, devoted, loving wife began to hope. And why should she not? For six years her husband had not been thus before. One week ago she dreaded his approach; but now she found herself waiting for him with all the anxiety of former years. Should all this be broken; should this new charm be swept away? Eight o'clock came, and so did nine and ten, and yet her husband came not!

"Mother," said little Charles, just as the clock struck ten, seeming to have awakened from a dreary slumber, "isn't this the last night of the old year?"

"Yes, my son."

"And do you know what I've been dreaming, dear mother? I dreamed that father had bro't us New Year's presents, just the same as he used to. But he won't will he? He's too poor now!"

"No, my dear boy, we shall have no other presents than food; and even for that we must thank dear father. There, lay your head in my lap again."

The boy laid his curly head once more in his mother's lap, and with tearful eyes she gazed upon his innocent form.

The clock struck eleven! The poor wife was yet on her tireless, sleepless watch! But hardly had the sound of the last stroke died away, ere the snow crust gave back the sound of a footfall, and in a moment more her husband entered. With a trembling fear she raised her eyes to his face, and a wild thrill of joy went to her heart, as she saw that all there was open and bold—only those manly features looked more joyous, more proud than ever.

"Lizzie," said he, in mild, kind accents, "I am late to-night, but business has detained me; and now I have a favor to ask of thee."

"Name it, dear Thomas, and you shall not ask a second time," cried the wife, as she laid her hand confidently upon her husband's arm.

"And you will ask me no questions?" continued Wilkins.

"No, I will not."

"Then," continued the husband, as he bent over and imprinted a kiss upon his wife's brow, "I want you to dress our children for a walk, and you shall accompany us. The night is calm and tranquil, and the snow is well trodden—"

"But—"

"Ah, no questions! Remember your promise."

Lizzie Wilkins knew not what all this meant, nor did she think to care; for anything that could please her husband she would have done with pleasure, even though it had wrenched her very heart strings. In a short time the two children were ready; then Mrs. Wilkins put on such articles of dress as she could command, and soon they were in the road.—

The moon shone brightly, the stars peeped down upon the earth, and they seemed to smile upon the travellers from out their twinkling eyes of light. Silently Wilkins led his way, and silently his wife and children followed. Several times the wife gazed up into her husband's face; but, from the strange expression that rested there, she could make out nothing that tended to satisfy her.

At length, a slight turn in the road brought them suddenly upon the pretty white cottage, where, years before they had been so happy. They approached the spot. The snow in the front yard had been shoveled away, and a path led up the piazza. Wilkins opened the gate—his wife, trembling, followed, but wherefore she knew not. Then her husband opened the door, and in the entry they were met by the smiling countenance of old Captain Walker, who ushered them into the parlor, where a warm fire glowed in the grate, and where everything looked neat and comfortable. Mrs. Wilkins turned her gaze on the old man, and then upon her husband. Surely, in that greeting between the poor man and the rich, there was none of that constraint which would have been expected. They met rather as friends and neighbors. What could it mean?

Hark! the clock strikes twelve! The old year is gone; a new, a bright-winged cycle is about to commence its flight over the earth.

Thomas Wilkins took the hand of his wife within his own, and then drawing from his bosom a paper, he placed it in her hand, remarking as he did so:—

"Lizzie, this is your husband's present for the new year."

The wife took the paper and opened it. She realized its contents at a glance, but she could not read it word for word, for the streaming tears of a wild, frantic joy would not let her. With a quick, nervous movement she placed the priceless pledge next her bosom; and then, with a low murmur, like the gentle whispering of some Heaven-bound angel, she fell, half fainting, into her husband's arms.

"Look up, look up, my own dear wife," uttered the redeemed man, "look up and

smile upon your husband; and you, too, my children, gather about your father—for a husband and father henceforth I will ever be. Look up, my wife. There—now, Lizzie, feel proud with me, for we stand within our own house! Yes, this cottage is once more our own; and nothing but the hand of death shall take us hence.—Our good, kind friend here will explain it all; O, Lizzie, if there be happiness on earth, it shall henceforth be ours! Let the past be forgotten, and with this, the dawning of a new year, let us commence to live in the future."

Gently the husband and wife sank upon their knees, clasped in each other's arms, and, clinging joyfully to them, knelt their conscious happy children. A prayer from the husband's lips wended its way to the Throne of Grace; and, with the tears trickling down his aged face, old Captain Walker responded a heartfelt "Amen."

Five years have passed since that happy moment. Thomas Wilkins has cleared his cottage from all incumbrances, and a happier or more respected family does not exist. And Lizzie, that gentle, confiding wife, as she takes that simple paper from the drawer, and gazes again on the magic pledge it bears, weeps tears of joy anew. Were all the wealth of the Indies poured out in one glittering, blinding pile at her feet, and all the honors of the world added thereto, she would not, for the whole countless sum, give in exchange one single word from that pledge which constituted *THE HUSBAND'S PRESENT.*

St. Nicholas Hotel—Bridal Chamber.

The *New York Herald* gives the following description of the bridal chamber in this new and unrivalled Hotel of the new world.

Upon opening the door of this room the effect produced is almost overpowering.—The bed stands in the centre of the floor, upon a broad cushion of white satin, which projects at each side and at the foot and head. The sides and posts, with scrolled foot and head boards, are of burnished gold. From each post the drapery of white satin, lined with Brussels lace, tapers upward and inward towards the lofty ceiling, where the four curtains are united by a square canopy of burnished gold. From each corner of this canopy a gilt ormolu scroll springs out, sustaining a glass chandelier. Each chandelier will display twenty lights. The bed is covered with the richest satin Brussels lace. The sheets are of muslin trimmed with lace. The curtains are looped at intervals, and confined around the bed-post with broad rosettes of white satin, to which heavy tassels of silken cord are suspended.

The room is covered with a carpet of the richest velvet Axminster. The toilet and room furniture is in perfect keeping with the bed and drapery; there is one arm chair covered with brocade gold cloth, manufactured expressly for the purpose, and scarcely seen before in America.—The value of this cloth is from \$45 to \$50 per yard. The walls of the room are covered with over one thousand yards of fluted white satin of great value, whilst a pier glass and mantel mirror, of extraordinary lustre, light up the fairy bower. A dressing room, parlor and bath room complete this suite. The window hangings are of satin brocade damask, interwoven with threads of gold.

Development of the Lungs.

Men have been said and written upon diet—eating and drinking; but I do not recollect ever noticing a remark in any writer, upon breathing, or the manner of breathing. They suppress their breathing, and contract the habit of short, quick breathing, not carrying half-way down the chest, and scarcely expanding the lower portions of the chest at all. Lacing the bottom of the chest also greatly increases this evil, and confirms a bad habit of breathing. Children that move about a good deal in the open air, and in no way laced, breathe deep and full to the chest, and every part of it. So also with out-door laborers and persons who take a great deal of exercise in the open air, because the lungs give us the power of action; and the more exercise we take, especially out of doors, the larger the lungs become, and the less liable to disease. In all occupations that require standing keep the body straight. If at a table let it be high and raised up, nearly to the armpits, so as not to require you to stoop; you will find the employment much easier—not one-half so fatiguing; while the form of the chest and the symmetry of the figure will remain perfect. You have noticed the fact that a great many tall ladies stoop, while a great many short ones are straight. This arises, I think, from the table at which they sit to work or study being medium height; far too low for a tall person and about right for a short person. This should be carefully corrected and regarded, so that each lady may occupy herself at a table suited to her, and thus prevent the possibility of the necessity of stooping.—*Fitch.*

MUSCULANTOUS.

Moscow after the Burning.

At the head of my regiment, I passed, for the first time, through the ruins of Moscow. It was at once a horrible and extraordinary sight. Some of the houses appeared to have been raised from their foundations; others preserved their outline with walls darkened by the smoke.—Rubbish of every kind obstructed the streets, and the smell of burning exhaled from every quarter. Here and there a cottage, a church, a palace, was standing in the midst of the wide ruin. The churches in particular, by their many colored domes, and the richness and variety of their construction, reminded us of the ancient opulence of Moscow. They now afforded a refuge to those of the inhabitants who had been driven by our soldiers from the houses which the flames had spared. These wretched beings, wandering like ghosts among the ruins, and clothed in rags, had recourse to the most grievous expedients for prolonging their miserable existence.—At one time they would devour the raw vegetables still remaining in the gardens, at another they would strip pieces of flesh from the animals lying dead in the streets.

Then they would plunge into the river to save some of the corn which their fellow citizens had thrown into the water, and which was now in a state of fermentation. The beating of drums and the sound of the military music which accompanied our march, rendered the spectacle still more mournful, by associating the idea of a triumph with images of destruction, of misery, and of death. After having passed through the immense city, we were cantoned in villages on the route of Jaroslavl and Vladimir. I was quartered at the chateau of Konevskoy, belonging to the Comte de Cheremetev, a man of enormous fortune. His delightful dwelling had been pillaged with the rest. When we had consumed the slender resources which the country offered, we reentered Moscow, and were stationed in the suburb of Vladimir.—*General de Fesca's Journal of the Russian Campaign in 1812.*

Invention and Use of Gunpowder.

The precise era of the invention of gunpowder, is involved in doubtful traditions and equivocal language; yet, we may clearly discern that it was clearly known before the middle of the fourteenth century; and that before the end of the same, the use of artillery, in battles and sieges, by sea and land, was familiar to the states of Germany, Italy, Spain, France and England. The priority of nations is of small account, none could desire any exclusive benefit from their previous knowledge; and in the common improvement, they stood on the same level of relative power and military science. Nor was it possible to circumscribe the secret within the pale of the church; it was disclosed to the Turks by the treachery of apostates and the selfish policy of rivalry; and the Sultan had sense to adopt, and wealth to reward the talents of a christian engineer. The Genoese, who transported Anurath into Europe, must be accused as his preceptors; and it was probably by their hands that his cannon was cast and directed at the siege of Constantinople. The first attempt was, indeed, unsuccessful; but in the general warfare of the age, the advantage was on their side who were most commonly the assailants; for a while the proportion of the attack and defence was suspended; and this thundering artillery was pointed against the walls and towers which had been erected only to resist the less potent engines of antiquity. By Venetians the use of gunpowder was communicated, with out reproach, to the Sultans of Egypt and Persia, their allies against the Ottoman power; the secret was soon propagated to the extremity of Asia; and the advantage of the European was confined to its easy victory over the savages of the New World.

Precocity of Intellect.

Chatterton wrote all his beautiful things, exhausted all hopes of life, and saw nothing better than death at the age of eighteen. Burns and Byron died in their thirtieth year; and, doubtless, the strength of their genius was over. Raphael, after filling the world with divine beauty, perished also at thirty-seven. Mozart expired. These might have produced still greater works. On the other hand, Handel was forty-eight before he gave the world "Assurance of the man." Dryden came up to London from the provinces, dressed in Norwich druggist, somewhat above the age of thirty, and did not even then know that he could write a line of poetry; yet towering vigour and swiftness came all at once in "Glorious John." Milton had, indeed, written "Comus" at twenty-eight; but he was upwards of fifty when he began his great work. Cowper knew not his own might till he was far beyond thirty; and his "Task" was not written till about his fiftieth year. Sir Walter Scott was upwards of thirty before he published his "Minstrelsy," and all his greatness was yet to come.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

PROVIDENCE, Friday, Jan. 28.
SENATE.—Petition of Barnabas Sears, Jr., granted in concurrence; of Albert Hanniman, for change of name, granted and referred.
Act and resolution for payment of salary of Commissioner of Public Schools. Passed in concurrence.
Order of notice upon the petition of the New England Butte Co. Passed in concurrence.
An act to limit the hours of labor, and to regulate the employment of children in factories, was taken up and amended.
Act in amendment of the charter of the Western Cemetery Company. Passed in concurrence.
Adjourned to Monday afternoon.
HOUSE.—The following petitions were granted and acted upon:—of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Pawtucket for act of incorporation; of Globe Bank, Providence, to increase capital; of James Tyng, for refunding costs; of Benj. F. Martin, a minor, for power to sell and convey real estate; of Huldah Budlong and others, for sale of real estate; of George A. Kenyon and wife to sell real estate.
An act in amendment of an act in relation to the public laws. Read and passed.
An act in amendment of an act entitled an act for the preservation of oysters and other shell fish within this State. Read and passed.
Petition of James Lee for the benefit of the insolvent act. Read and concurred.
Petition of Francis Hoswell and wife for release of James Stanley from Reform School.—Granted and act passed in concurrence.
The order of the day (the Maine Law) was taken up. The sixth and seventh sections of the bill were adopted.
The House adjourned till Monday afternoon.
PROVIDENCE, Monday, Jan. 31.
SENATE.—The Senate passed in concurrence the following order of notice:—On an act to incorporate the city of Newport, petition of Hiram Hill, et al., for incorporation of the Atlantic Bank, of Attmore Robinson, et al., for incorporation of People's Exchange Bank, petition of Mechanics Fire Engine Company, No. 2, of Warren, for act of incorporation.
The ten hour law was then taken up in committee and discussed and amended, when the Senate adjourned to 10 A. M. Tuesday.
HOUSE.—Mr. Josiah Titus, member elect from the town of Scituate, in place of William A. Roberts, deceased, appeared, was qualified and took his seat.
The Maine Law was taken up, and Mr. Allen moved a substitute for the 9th, 10th, and part of the 11th sections, being the 11th, 12th, and part of the 13th sections of the printed bill.
The substitute was ordered to be printed, and the House adjourned.
PROVIDENCE, Tuesday, Feb. 1.
SENATE.—Concurrence.—In order of notice upon petition of citizens of N. Providence, for charter of a Savings Bank, also, upon petition of Amos P. Rodman and others, for charter of Peaceable Bank; in charter of First Methodist Episcopal Church in Pawtucket; in granting petition for liberation of Stephen Tibbals; in passage of the act repealing the act in relation to the Steamship Railroad.
Resolution from the House inviting the Senate to join that body in grand committee, at 11 o'clock on Thursday morning next, was indefinitely postponed, by a vote of 12 to 13.
Petition of Arcade Bank for increase of capital. Granted and act passed, augmenting the capital to one million dollars, and imposing personal liability upon the stockholders for all debts of the bank.
Petition of Robert C. Fuller, that his son George H. Fuller, may be sent to the Providence Reform School instead of the State Prison, granted; of Benj. Marshall, guardian, for leave to sell estate of his son and ward, granted in concurrence; of Globe Bank, for increase of capital, granted in concurrence, with an amendment limiting the amount to one million; of John Lloyd, for leave to hold real estate, granted.
Act increasing compensation for publication of laws in newspapers, passed in concurrence.
Act in amendment of the oyster law, passed in concurrence with an amendment.
An act establishing pilots for the waters and harbors of Narragansett Bay, was called up, read by sections, and passed.
Adjourned to Wednesday.
HOUSE.—Petition of John Stokes and others for an act to incorporate the Woonasquett Engine Co. in Olneyville. Granted and act passed.
An act to enable the town of North Providence to elect Commissioners of Highways. Read and passed.
Petition of Silvanus G. Martin and wife, to adopt child. Granted, and act passed in concurrence.
Petition of Albert W. Harris, guardian, for leave to mortgage the accruing rents of his ward. Granted, and act passed.
Petition of Barnabas Sears, Jr., guardian for power to sell real estate of his ward, concurred in by the Senate, with an amendment. Passed in concurrence.
Petition of John Bowman and wife to adopt child. Granted and act passed in concurrence.
Mr. Barstow introduced the following resolution, which was read and passed:—
Resolved, That the Committee on Corporations be directed to report an act, providing that the release from jury duty, granted in the several acts for the incorporation of Engine Companies in this State, shall only apply to such individuals connected with said corporations as have been elected by the town or city councils in which they are located, as members of the fire department, and determine whether they become disconnected with said fire department. And also, that the certificate of the town or city clerks shall alone determine the right of release from said jury duty.
The order of the day—the act for the more effectual suppression of drinking houses and tipping shops—was taken up, but no progress was made, except in adopting an amendment to an amendment, striking out a clause providing for the destruction of liquor declared forfeited. Adjourned.
PROVIDENCE, Wednesday, Feb. 2.
SENATE.—The act to limit the hours of labor and to regulate the employment of children in factories was again taken up, discussed and passed.
Concurrence.—Resolution making appropriation for an iron railing for the Court House steps in Newport; an act to enable the town of Warren to appoint Commissioners of Highways; an act to enable the town of North Providence to appoint Commissioners of Highways; an act in relation to the sentence of criminals during the pendency of a sentence under a prior conviction.
The petition of John W. Richmond, relative to the State Debt, was taken up, and Dr. Richmond being present, was permitted to address the Senate. He suggested that a committee of three be appointed from each House to act with a committee of three on the part of the creditors, who should appoint three disinterested persons, to whose arbitration the whole controversy should be referred.
The proposition of Dr. Richmond being in the form of a resolution, was referred to the committee on finance.
Adjourned to 10 A. M. Thursday.
HOUSE.—Granted and Acts Passed.—Bank of Commerce for amendment of charter; American Bank for amendment of charter; George B. and James A. Hennesford for change of name; Benajah Warner and wife to adopt a child; John Bowden for relief.
Petition of Albert Harriman for change of name; concurred.
Petition of Arcade bank for amendment of charter, concurred with amendments.
The order of the day the Maine Law was called up. The discussion occupied the remainder of the session. Adjourned.
PROVIDENCE, Thursday, Feb. 3.
SENATE.—An act to exempt homesteads from attachment—called up and discussed at length, and passed by a vote of 17 to 13.
Petition of Arcade Bank, for increase of capital. Granted. Adjourned to Friday.
HOUSE.—The Liquor Bill was ordered to be printed, and made the special order for Tuesday next. Mr. A. V. Potter made an unsuccessful effort to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court, on the constitutionality of the law.
Sundry accounts against the State were allowed.
Petition of Daniel Brown and wife, to sell real estate. Granted, and act passed.
Petition of Nathan C. Jencks and others, for liberation of James Lawless. Granted and act passed.
Resolutions making appropriation for Educational Magazine. Read and passed.
Resolutions authorizing School Commissioner to apply funds for the deaf, dumb, and blind, Read and passed.
Adjourned to 10 o'clock Friday.

CALIFORNIA NEWS.

THE STEAMER STAR OF THE WEST, UNITED STATES and Georgia have arrived at New York with dates from California to Feb. 1st, nearly two million and a half of gold, considerably over one fifth of which, was in the hands of 600 passengers.
SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—The present winter is conceded to be the most severe one experienced in this country since it has last flogged it has been raining and snowing continually in the mountains and valleys, and we are daily in the receipt of accounts of distress and suffering in all parts of the State. The waters have been unusually high, and communications through the mining regions have been almost entirely cut off either by the snow or overflowing streams.
The rivers have been swelled to such an extent as to inundate all the low lands, causing an immense damage, and destroying stock and agricultural products. The whole country between Tehama and Sacramento is entirely under water, while Marysville was partly inundated; and though Sacramento was well protected by a levee, the lower portions were submerged. The waters at the present time have subsided, although the rains still continue. On the mountain streams the loss of mining implements has been great, and all work for the present is suspended. Bridges have been swept away, and ferries destroyed, and some few lives lost. The Southern portion of the mining district has suffered equally with the Northern.
Stockton has been inundated partially, and property to a considerable amount destroyed.
The bridges on the Calaveras, Stanislaus and other streams, have been swept away and communication with the mining towns for a while suspended.
The flood has been universal, and the waters higher than in the memorable winter of 1849.
The great scarcity of provisions and the consequent high price has occasioned much suffering and distress, and it is feared that many will actually die from starvation. Many miners subsist entirely on beef and potatoes, whilst in other portions of the mines there are hundreds who have nothing at all but barley and potatoes. In portions of Yuba and Sierra counties the snow was already ten feet deep and still falling, and the miners actually reduced to absolute want.
In one place the miners held a meeting and offered a trader to sell what flour they had on hand at 45 cents per pound, and all who were able to leave did so, thus leaving the provisions for those who were unable to find their way through the snow to the valleys. In some places cabins are entirely crushed, thus cutting off the last chance of protection.
The accounts received may be greatly exaggerated; nevertheless there is much suffering and distress, and it is not improbable that some may perish with starvation.
The United States Land Commissioners have resumed their session in this city, and rendered several opinions and decrees of final confirmation. Among the most important is one confirming the claim of Col. John C. Fremont to Los Mariopos, containing ten square leagues, bounded on the North by the Sierra Nevada on the East by the River Chuchillies, on the South by San Joaquin, and West by the Merced. The grant was made in 1844, by Governor Micheltorena to Juan B. Alvarado, in consideration of important services rendered.
A man named Wm. K. Jones was hung by the people a few days since, 12 miles above Sacramento, for the murder of Peter McGaffigan.
From the census report of Sacramento county, published by the California, it appears that the population numbers 12,389.
The estimated value of the hay crop in Sacramento county in 1852, was \$301,260; of barley, \$274,874 melons, \$143,200; total value of the hay, grain, and vegetables, \$1,077,325. The stock and poultry are estimated to be worth \$1,335,698. Value of produce, per acre, cultivated, \$148.62; of stock, per acre, cultivated, \$185.75—total value per acre, \$334.37.
A convention of quartz miners recently held at Nevada, adopted a code of mining laws for quartz mining.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Jan. 28.
SENATE.—Mr. Mangum moved that when the Senate adjourned it be till Monday. Agreed to.
The bill for the relief of the captors of the frigate Philadelphia, was passed, and several other private bills. Adjourned.
HOUSE.—The House went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.
The House passed twenty-two private bills and adjourned.
WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 29.
SENATE.—The Senate was not in session.
HOUSE.—After the usual opening business, a bill for the relief of General Riley was read a third time and passed.
The House then took up the report of the Committee of Conference on the bill for the relief of the widows and orphans of those soldiers who were killed in the late war with Mexico. The report was then adopted.
WASHINGTON, Monday, Jan. 31.
SENATE.—The death of Mr. Buell, a member of the House from the State of New York, was announced to the Senate by Mr. Seward.
Messrs. Foote and Hamlin followed Mr. Seward, after which the Senate adjourned.
HOUSE.—Mr. Jenkins announced the death of the Hon. A. H. Buell, member of the House from New York, and spoke a brief eulogy of the deceased, and offered the customary resolutions, when the House adjourned.
WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 1.
SENATE.—The Senate took up the resolution reported at the last session, by the Committee on Foreign Relations, relative to the Cary grant.
Mr. Mason recapitulated the facts set forth, and in the course of his remarks, said it might become the duty of the United States to insist that a right of way shall be substantially conceded as secured by the grant to Gary. He earnestly urged, that it was the duty of the United States to protect our citizens; and that by law a nation has a right to take a claimed right of way by force, if it cannot be obtained peaceably. He predicted that in case of war, Mexico would fall dead upon our head.
Mr. Downs obtained the floor, when the Senate adjourned.
HOUSE.—The bill concerning bail in civil cases in the District of Columbia, was passed.
The House took up the bill making appropriations for the support of the army.
An amusing debate followed between Messrs. Stanley, Davis, Wilcox, and others, when the Committee rose without taking the vote. Adjourned.
WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 2.
SENATE.—The bill for the relief of Gen. Riley was passed.
The Senate took up the emigrant route to the Pacific bill, to which Mr. Rusk, from the special committee, had reported an amendment, striking out all after the enacting clause, and inserting provisions that it be the duty of the President to cause to be constructed as soon as practicable a railroad and magnetic telegraph line connecting the valley of the Mississippi with the Pacific ocean, at such points as he may determine. The President to determine the general route, and to employ engineers and surveyors to furnish him with information, &c.; grants the right of way three hundred feet through the public lands for the construction of said road; appropriates alternate sections of land six miles each side through States, and twelve miles each side through territories, and twenty millions of dollars in five per cent. bonds, redeemable in fifty years; the road to be constructed in the most complete and finished manner, and to be a first class road. As soon as the general route is determined, proposals to be advertised for and work given to the lowest responsible bidder.
The residue of the bill, containing fourteen sections, is occupied in the various details of the above general provisions.
After a short discussion the Senate adjourned.
HOUSE.—The House resumed the consideration of the Senate courage bill, and Mr. Daubman continued his remarks in favor of the bill and in answer to the objections of the seigniorage claim.
Mr. Jones, of Tenn., followed in opposition, which he denounced as a piece of verbiage charlatanism.
Pending his remarks the House proceeded to the business on the speaker's table.
The Senate amendment to the bill granting the right of way to the Missouri and Mountain Railroad was concurred in.
The Senate bill granting the right of way, &c., for a railroad to Wisconsin was taken up.
Amendments were offered, pending the discussion of which the House adjourned.
WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 3.
SENATE.—The bill to organize the Navy was taken up.
Mr. Stockton moved sixty-six amendments, which he said had received the sanction of the two Committees of Congress on Naval Affairs, and of the Navy Department.
The bill was discussed by Messrs. Stockton, Hale, Hunter, and Mallory, when all the amendments were adopted, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.
The bill authorizing registers to American built vessels, owned wholly or in part by persons who have not completed their naturalization, was passed.
The Pacific railroad bill was taken up, the question being on Mr. Brodhead's substitute.
Mr. Weller replied to Messrs. Bayard and Bright, who spoke yesterday.
Mr. Davis got the floor, when the Senate adjourned.
TO CURE THE TOOTHACHE.—Take a paper of tobacco, pour upon it a wine glass of warm water, squeeze out part of the moisture, and after placing the pulp upon a slice of bread, apply it as a plaster to the face. There is nothing like it, says an anonymous somebody, for the toothache—and it is the only remedy for it in its worst form, the acute in the face.
NEW SAUCE.—Soyer has become so imbued with the feelings of Uncle Tom's Cabin, that he has invented a new sauce, which, out of respect of Mrs. Stowe, he has christened "The Tom-Martyr."
London Punch.
HAY IS SELLING at Louisville at \$114 a 13 per ton—in Baltimore at \$18 a 20.

BY THE MAIL.

TRANSPLANTING OF TREES.—There is many a good, honest farmer, whose dwelling stands as bare as a light-house upon an ocean rock, exposed to every wind that blows, and every ray of sun that strikes mid-summer day pours down on its decrepit walls and windows. The very chickens cannot find a shrub to shelter them, now that winter is upon us, and there are idle horses sighing for something to do, and idle horses gnawing their stalls and growing unruly for lack of exercise and labor; go into the woods some fine, mild day, when there is snow enough on the ground to make comfortable sleighing, take up some fine young maples, elms, basswoods, tulip trees (whiteoak), put them on the sled and transport them to your homes, plant them on the roadsides, and here and there in the vicinity of your dwellings; and in a year or two you will find you have made a wonderful improvement in the comfort of your home and the appearance of your home landscape. Dig good, large, wide and deep holes for them. First, have some good loam from the fence corners or the woods, to put about the roots. Take them up with all the roots, prune the heads lightly, but don't "pollard" them—that is, cut off the heads entirely—for that destroys their natural characteristic forms for several years. Shorten the limbs only. If evergreens, such as balsam fir, spruces, hemlocks, pines and cedars, can be had, do not fail to add a few of them.
SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.—The following are the statistics returned by the recent Census in regard to the Society of Friends:
States. No. of churches. Agg. acco.
Connecticut, 5 1,025
Delaware, 9 3,626
Georgia, 2 500
Illinois, 6 1,550
Indiana, 35 43,015
Iowa, 5 1,550
Maine, 24 7,225
Maryland, 26 7,760
Massachusetts, 37 13,723
Michigan, 7 1,400
New Hampshire, 15 4,700
New Jersey, 52 25,445
New York, 132 49,314
North Carolina, 30 12,620
Ohio, 94 30,846
Pennsylvania, 141 60,974
Rhode Island, 18 6,370
South Carolina, 1 500
Tennessee, 4 1,600
Vermont, 7 2,550
Virginia, 14 6,300
Total, 714 282,823
District of Columbia, 1 200
OKRA HEMP.—It has been ascertained that ropes can be made from the fibres of the okra, as strong and durable as those made from common hemp, and it is not improbable that the culture of this plant may soon be as extensive in the Southern States as that of hemp in the Middle States. It is said that upward of three tons of okra hemp can be raised on a single acre of land. The seeds of okra are said to be a good substitute for coffee, and if they can be allowed to ripen before the plant is cut for hemp, the land may be made to yield a double product to the planter. The okra requires a rich soil, but if it can be substituted for hemp, we predict its early extensive culture in this country. It is raised with the utmost facility in the vicinity of Washington, where in good soil it grows to the height of six and eight feet.—American Polytechnic Journal.
MR. FREDERICK LEOPOLD, a citizen of the United States, who last summer was seized in Hanover, for military service due to the king thereof, has returned to his home in this city. He states that he was seized at night and immediately taken to prison, his baggage was searched and all his money taken from him for a time. He sent for the American Consul, but he said he could do nothing for him, and so Mr. Leopold compounded the matter by paying \$250 for a substitute. This, it seems, that, though an American citizen, yet inasmuch as he emigrated to this country without leave, he was still liable to service in the army of the King of Hanover.
INDIA RUBBER HORSE SHOES.—Among the many articles which are now manufactured from India rubber, perhaps there is none of a more useful as well as novel character than horse shoes. Experiments made previous to the present cold weather, indicate that they will prove fully as durable as iron. Their lightness will especially adapt them to the race course, and having all the toughness, without the brittleness of iron, they will be of equal service, while devoid of the danger of breaking when the horse is under motion.
ATA SOCIAL GATHERING in this city last evening, one of the guests, who had been trying a pair of pistols, incautiously took them with him in the pocket of his outside coat. Some powder and matches together (1) were in the other pocket. A little activity on his part brought the matches and the powder into warm proximity, when an explosion took place which blew the coat off the back of its wearer. Luckily, the pistols did not explode.
Bangor Mercury, 13th.
BUTTER.—A correspondent of a New York commercial says:—
"The fact is, there is a full supply of butter in New York this year, but much of it is in the hands of the speculators, who take a good chance of becoming heavy losers. We should not be surprised to see butter cheaper in the spring, than it has been in many years."
A LIGHT BOAT.—It is said that one of the boats (wherries) used for deciding the championship of the Thames was made of wood, measuring over forty feet in length, but weighing only twenty-eight pounds. The materials cost but 12s., while the cost of construction and workmanship amounted to £32.—Boston Journal.
It is said that Jerome Bonaparte possesses a letter from Hortense, confessing the illegitimacy of Louis Napoleon, and this accounts for the creation of the office of high admiral for him, and the vice royalty degree.
A LEADING medical practitioner at Brighton, England, has lately given a list of sixteen cases of paralysis, produced by smoking, which came under his own knowledge within the last six months.
UMBRELLA.—An ingenious down-easter has invented an umbrella with a gutter all around it, so that the water pours off in a single stream.
FEMALE WHALERS.—At one time there have been enumerated in Honolulu the wives of twenty-five Yankee sea captains. From such information as can be obtained, it is supposed that one in six of all whaling captains is accompanied by his wife. The practice is annually increasing. This is a new feature in the prosecution of the whaling business. Probably a score of American ladies have visited the Arctic Ocean during the past summer.—Hawaii's Friend.
LONG-TOED SHOES were invented by Fulk, Count of Anjou, to hide an excrescence on one of his feet. These toes were so long as to be fastened to the knees with gold chains, and carried at the extreme point with the representation of a church window, a bird, or some fantastic device.
PROGRESS OF LUXURY.—The importations of silks, teas, wines, cigars, and gold watches into the port of New York have reached \$2,000,000 in a single week.
A YANKEE in Iowa has just taught ducks to swim in hot water, and with such success that they lay boiled eggs. Who says this is not an age of improvement!

NEWPORT MERCURY.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 5, 1853.
It will be remembered by our readers that on the first of January we published a sketch of the life of Bishop Berkeley, who should have been mentioned at that time that it was our purpose to continue a series of similar sketches of the History of Rhode Island and of Rhode Islanders. With this number of the Mercury, we commence another article on this subject, passages of which will be found full of interest, as they treat of events of which little notice has been taken heretofore. We have already awakened a considerable degree of interest in our colonial history which has brought to light many important facts, and our search for documents has been liberally rewarded, though, it must be owned, at a cost of much time and labor. And the better to control the articles we intend to issue in these columns we have secured a copyright, that they may be published at some future day in a more durable form, which will in a measure compensate for our present expenditure.
HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF RHODE ISLAND.
(Copy Right secured, according to Law.)
EASA STILES, the son and only child of Rev. ISAAC STILES, was born at North Haven, Conn., December 10th, 1737. In youth he was deprived of the enjoyment of health, and through life he was subject to the infirmities of a feeble frame; but by studying his own constitution, carefully regulating his diet and exercising in the open air, he prolonged his days to three score and eight years. The events in his youthful days we must hastily pass over—merely noting the time of his entering Yale College in his fifteenth year, his receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts at the age of nineteen, and his election as a tutor of the College at twenty-two—that we may devote more space to those traits of character which so adorned his life and which so happily qualified him to fulfill the duties of the most important stations. And in so doing we shall confine our researches more particularly to his connection with the Congregational Church in this town, illustrating his life by copious extracts from such of his writings as have come within our reach.
To be concise, we enter at once upon the most important events in his life and times.
Dr. Stiles early engaged in scientific pursuits, and while a professor in Yale College he made several successful experiments in electricity—the first that were made in New England. The same year (1759) he preached his first sermon at North Haven, and was made Master of Arts. He continued his avocation as a preacher till 1772, when his health was in so precarious a state that he decided to turn his attention to the law—a profession for which he always retained a strong partiality. The following year he took the Attorney's oath, and at the public commencement of the College, pronounced a Latin oration in memory of Bishop Berkeley.
In 1754 he traveled for his health, taking Deerfield, Newport, and Boston, in his circuit. At that time Newport was in the full tide of prosperity—the following April he was invited to preach at Newport during his vacation. He accepted to the wishes of his friends, and on the following May he was called to the second Church and Congregation. This much embarrassed him, as he had fully determined to continue in the practice of the law. He was repeatedly urged to comply with the earnest request of the Society, and of his final answer he says:—
"At length, partly, my friends especially my father's inclination, partly, an agreeable town, and the Redwood Library, partly, the voice of Providence in the unanimity of the people; my love of preaching, and prospect of more leisure for pursuing study than I could expect in the law—which, however, I have to this day—induced me to yield, and I gave an affirmative answer to the Church and Society."
The following members of the Congregation were appointed a committee to assist Dr. Stiles to become the pastor of the church—Caleb Gardner, David Chasebrough, Benjamin Wilson, Robert Stevens. They addressed a letter to him, praying that he would fill the pulpit made vacant by the death of Rev. James Seavie. His reply was characteristic, so free from ambition and so fully imbued with the spirit of true piety, which ever led him to distrust his own powers, that we copy it entire.
New Haven, April 21, 1755.
GENTLEMEN: I have your letter by Mr. Cary. Sincerely conde with you the death of your late worthy father. Your application to me to supply his pulpit was a great honor, and I will endeavor to forgive me if I could not at once resolve what reply to make; especially when I had for sometime past very much labored with the design of preaching and was preparing myself for a different scene of life.
It must be of consequence that you have a man of learning, virtue and real merit in a place where the brightest talents and most shining accomplishments only can render his life either useful or honorable. The burden of instructing mankind in the christian principles of virtue and piety. I am indeed, think the most noble and worthy employment, and in which a man of genius and true goodness might spend the short yet a most agreeable life. Had I myself pursued it by the leave of Providence, the unequalled to it; but the incoherence of my late father's health forbade it. I am now in as good a state of health as a naturally slender constitution may expect, yet an afraid I shall have no robustness enough to go through so laborious an employment.—Add to this, I really distrust my own abilities for a successful discharge of that noble calling. Have thought therefore that Providence has designed me a much more inferior sphere of action, in which, however, still steadfastly I pursue the study of the sacred scriptures, in every season (and I think it may be pursued in every season) of existence, the service of God, mankind by promoting the true and unadulterated principles of virtue and benevolence with which as I myself am charmed so I am fond of recommending them to others, as they most exalt the human mind and give it the greatest semblance of the wonderful Father.
Have fully determined that I will not leave Dr. Eliot, and other friends, to make you a visit. But the duties of my present station don't permit my return with Mr. Cary. Hope however to be with you the second Sabbath of May. Should be very glad to return again in a few days. But am really ashamed to appear in your desk, as I know I am unequal to the two favorable opinion your letter suggests you've conceived from the two kind recommendations of good Dr. Eliot. You have my very grateful acknowledgments for your generous invitation. I wish all happiness to your congregation; my compliments and kindest salutation to them. I am a friend to all of every Denomination who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth and am gentlemen with very great respect,
your most obt. servant,
Easa Stiles.
To Messrs. Gardner, et al. Committee of the Congregation at Newport.
Prior to his call to the Congregational Church, he received an invitation to reside over Trinity Church, where he makes mention in his notes. He is speaking of his faith, and of the serious doubts that for a long time assailed him and to which he at one time, in his early career, so far gave way as to incline to deism. These illusions vanished as he earnestly applied himself to the scriptures, and it is at this time that he speaks of his call to Trinity Church.—I early determined that, in whatever I trifled, I would not trifle on the subject of religion, or, however, if I sold my faith, it should be dearly bought. Hence, when, in 1755, I had formal invitation from the Episcopal Church in Stratford, to conform, and succeed Dr. Johnson, with at least £100, Sterling a year, and, before that in October, 1760, when I sustained a vigorous application to take orders, and become a minister in the Episcopal Church in Newport, then represented as a living of £200, sterling a year—I thank God with these things moved me, yet addressed me with the least charm of temptation.
On the twenty second of October 1766 Dr. Stiles was regularly installed the pastor of the Congre-

gational Church, and immediately entered upon the duties which that arduous and industry which characterize his undertakings. Nor did he confine his attention exclusively to his own Society. It is recorded of him that he went to the Friends' Meeting at Boston he attended the Congregational and Episcopal Churches at New York, the Episcopal and Dutch Churches at Philadelphia the Friends, Roman Catholic and others—with a fair and unprejudiced mind. And he asserted that his visits to the different societies always resulted in a greater preference for that form of worship in which he had been educated.
Soon after his settlement at Newport, he was appointed Librarian of the Redwood Library, and his interest in this institution was unabated through his life time. Within its quiet walls he spent much of his time, and through his instrumentality the collection was greatly augmented. It was his proposition that a collection of Theological works be made, and aided by Rev. Dr. West, of Dartmouth, he commenced the laborious undertaking. Many of the books purchased at his suggestion, bear his marginal notes.
We have had access to some of the writings of Dr. Stiles, during his residence in Newport, which have never found their way to the public. From these we extract such passages as refer to the events of his times, prefacing them with the following words from the Mercury of seventeen hundred sixty-six, as giving a lively picture of the manner in which a clergyman's salary was paid when money was scarce, and only to be obtained by the law—
May 1st 1767. "Last Wednesday, 27 young Ladies of this town made the Rev. Dr. Stiles a visit. They sent their wheels, and carried enough for a moderate day's spinning, having agreed to have no trial but should spin most, but to have good fire wood, and as much as they could without fatiguing themselves, and accordingly they spun the day in a very agreeable, industrious manner, and at sunset made Mrs. Stiles a present of about 100 lb. smoked skins of yarn fine enough for shirts for the best continued in America."
Mrs. Stiles had then enough sent that evening and next morning, to make up 123 skins, by several ladies who spun at their own houses.
The same day eight little misses, all under 10 years of age, at the house of Capt. John Goodrich, spun 100 lb. of yarn, in this town, spun 17 lb. smoked skins of very good linen, notwithstanding some of them did not begin until 9 in the morning."
We also find in the Mercury that on Thursday May 27, 1772, a number of ladies, on 70 wheels spun 216 skins of linen yarn, which they presented to Mrs. Stiles.
The capture of Montreal and the reduction of Canada were received with joyful acclamations throughout the colony, and by order of the General Assembly there was a public thanksgiving. It complies with public instructions, he preached a sermon on the occasion, in which he uttered the following prophetic words:—
"We are planting the Empire of better laws and religion. It is probable that, in time, there will be formed a Provincial Congress, and a common council, standing on free provincial suffrage, and this may, in time, terminate in an imperial diet, when the imperial dominion will submit, as it ought, in election."
He was soon led to look even more fully into politics and June 30, 1754, on the day of public fasting and prayer throughout the colony, he preached from the appropriate text, Esther IV, 3; and on the following July he makes these remarks on the state of the times:—
"We have lived to see and feel heavier oppressions than our forefathers ever felt in America. Heretofore we had a King only, and struggle with—now, the united force of the Pope, emperor, army and navy. May the God of our fathers deliver us. . . . The whole of the present system of Parliamentary domination stands on the single question *Taxation without Representation*. This is too great a question for the millions of America ever to suffer to be finally determined in the affirmative. And again:—
"The loss and recent stroke of the Parliament on our liberties, has astonished America into a real and efficacious union, which is beyond the power of Europe to dissolve. . . . We shall not be discouraged, if it prove momentary, till we come to the last, the success of which is indubitable. We shall continue our (at present) useless and repulsive supplications to one King, remembering that the hearts of princes are in the hands of the Most High, and that He turneth them whithersoever He will. But if oppression proceeds, despotism may force us to demand a Congress and a public spirit of enterprise may originate an American *Magna Charta*, and Bill of Rights, supported with such intrepidity and persevering importunity, as even sovereignty may, heretofore, judge it not wise to withstand. There will be a *Reverence in America*."
On the 26th of October, 1764, the Meeting House of the Society (now the Central Baptist Church) was struck by lightning and the fact is thus recorded in the Dr. Stiles' hand upon this date:—
"My Meeting House was set on fire by a ball of lightning which struck the N. E. Corner, near the tower window. It was happily extinguished with little damage. The same flame was also seen to discharge on the Rev. Mr. Yaw's Meeting House, which appeared all over illuminated, being wet with rain, yet not fired. But it struck at the same time and set fire to the tower of the Episcopal Church, where it was also extinguished. These three accidents, which place of public worship in this town which have been struck, three which unquestionably the discharge and communication between the clouds and the earth was formed. Had the steeples been furnished with the electrical fluid might have been lost, conducted off without any revolution. The lightning came up in the night, and had the lightning been before day, the fire might have become unextinguishable before discovery, in which case a considerable part of the town might have been laid in ashes, but, it striking about six or seven o'clock in the morning, and the meeting of Mr. Meeting House being seen to arise at the instant of percussion, the town was alarmed and the fire immediately put out. A merciful God prevented the impending desolation. DEO. OPT. MAX. GRATIAS."
It appears that his counsel at length prevailed, and we find the following under date of August 25, 1766. "Dr. Franklin's Electrical points were erected atop the spire of my steeple. From the iron steeple there descended two lines of iron wire, across the N. E. and S. E. corners of the steeple to the ground. The points were of large brass wire, extending about a foot above the vane. They are the first and only electrical rods erected in the colony of Rhode Island, upon any Meeting House or any public buildings, and I think there's but one private house in the Colony guarded with them. In Boston, Cambridge and a few other places in New England, points have been lately erected upon a few Meeting Houses and the Colleges."
(To be continued.)
On Wednesday morning, after the Empire State had cast off from the wharf, an Irishman, named MICHAEL WATERS, walked overboard and was drowned. He must have been asleep when the boat touched at the wharf and before he entirely recovered stepped overboard. A plank was thrown to him and he succeeded in gaining it, but the oar soon chilled him to death. The body was landed and every means resorted to by Dr. HENRY TRAXER, to restore animation without avail. A verdict was called by DANIEL O. DENHAM, Esq., and a verdict rendered "accidental drowning."
The unfortunate man was a native of Ashford, county of Wicklow, Ireland, and was about fifty-five years of age. It appears from a letter in his possession that he has a wife residing in Ballinacole cottage, Ashford, county of Wicklow, Ireland. The Coroner also informs us, that he also appears from the letter that she was to come out to the country in the spring, having sent her some money in September last to aid her in that object, and that probably he had recently sent her an additional sum, as only a small amount of change was found upon his person.
This article we published two weeks since, and brought to light the fact that there are five Irish old papers mailed up in houses in this town. We hope to obtain access to at least one of them.

